

From: Paul E. Smith
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/19/01 12:38pm
Subject: Comments about the Microsoft antitrust settlement

I am writing this as a consumer:

My belief is that there is no reason for Microsoft to bundle their version of a web browser, multimedia players, instant messaging, and so on, with their operating system other than to extend their monopoly to other areas. I believe the current settlement will allow Microsoft to get back to "business as usual" very quickly. I believe that consumers need a better remedy than the one proposed.

Microsoft will still continue to be the dominant player in operating systems and software even if the harshest penalties suggested were imposed. Why waste taxpayer dollars in the courts if antitrust laws are not going to be enforced?

Paul E. Smith